

you would show some sign of appreciation of the honor of being received by the head of state. I would have offered you hospitality and friendship and have asked you what I could do for you. This would have given you an opportunity to talk about the railroad and whatever else you had in mind. Would not this have been a proper procedure between civilized people?" The colonel wheeled and left the room. The Georgians were proud of their President but they felt a little uneasy. Was this the right way to talk to the representative of a great power?

Two hours later a British officer appeared at the palace with a letter. The colonel, as the commanding officer of the British detail to be stationed in Tiflis, informed the President of the Republic of his arrival and requested the honor of a personal audience. This time the colonel was exquisitely polite. He talked with Jordania and members of the government about his mission and the political and military situation in Europe and asked them about their country. After the audience, shaking hands with Jordania, he remarked casually that he would appreciate it if the President forgot his first appearance at the palace. Jordania slapped him on the shoulder and assured him it was forgotten.

The British established friendly relations with the government, but the common people in Tiflis could not reconcile themselves to the Scottish uniform. I heard some old Georgians express their deep disapproval. No self-respecting man would wear woman's garb, and what could one say of soldiers who ran around without trousers, in girls' skirts?

The end of the war did not bring peace and security to Georgia. The threat of Russia was becoming more and more real. The future of Georgia as an independent nation seemed to depend on her recognition by the Peace Conference in Paris, which proposed to redraw the map of Europe and the Middle East. Georgia was a minor pawn in the global game, but she counted on the Allies' announced stand on self-determination of peoples and on her own record of self-government. Most of all, Georgia counted on the support of public opinion among European liberals and moderate Socialists.

Through the British mission, the Georgians obtained permission to present their case to the Allied Supreme Council, the Big Four. Chkheidze and Tseretelli were named to head the delegation, which also included representatives of other political parties in Georgia. Anticipating that Communist sympathizers and Russian reactionaries would oppose Georgia's demand for recognition of her independence and assail her for her pact with Germany, the Georgian government decided to present the Conference with a well-documented record of its foreign policy. Chkheidze asked me whether such a memorandum